

National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE) AEGS Guidance Information Officer CPD 26/03/19

Social inclusion, Challenges and Opportunities
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Lárionad Náisiúnta *um* Throir san Oideachas
National Centre *for* Guidance *in* Education

SOLAS
An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna
Further Education and Training Authority



An Roinn Oideachais
agus Scileanna
Department of
Education and Skills

National consultations regarding the AEGS AGMS developments / GDPR

- * AGMS / FET Guidance Management System Working Group. The establishment of this Working Group will provide the structure to progress data gathering and the reporting of FET Guidance, thereby underpinning quality FET Guidance into the future.**
- * NCGE briefed the Directors of FET on developments, at their forum in ETBI.**
- * 2nd AGMS/ FET Guidance Management System Working Group Meeting**
- * ESOL and EAL resources and Guidance supports work (Mary Kenny)**
- * SOLAS – ETB Strategic Performance Agreement 2018 – 2020 launch**

- * **The Launch of the Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission Strategy Statement 2019 – 2021, where we engaged with IHREC to build communications regarding that strategy and the IHREC ‘priorities’.**
- * **Engaging with the Irish Universities Association regarding support to their FE to HE subgroup and meeting with TU Dublin regarding Guidance provision to their developing ‘Access to Apprenticeship Programme’**
- * **Citizens’ Dialogue on “Young People – The Future of Ireland and Europe” with European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport; Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Katherine Zappone TD, and TU Dublin President, Professor David FitzPatrick.**
- * **Collaborative video project with Careers Portal ensuring AEGS services represented along with PLC learners - AEGS supported a number of NCGE engagements**

- * **Ongoing challenge to incorporate and integrate priorities and strategic planning that impact FET/ AEGS Guidance provision**
- * **To know about services/ policies/priorities??**
- * **SOLAS recognises that there are over 40 policies that have an impact on the FET Sector in relation to inclusion and seeks to embed these into the development of good practice guidelines and to inform the FET parameters.**
- * **NCGE engaging with SOLAS Active Inclusion unit maintains documents to assist FET practitioners to locate relevant policy recommendations and actions.**



**We continue to need to be aware of ‘Priority Groups’
AEGI and Guidance in FET needs to promote cooperative and
collaborative services, and avoid duplication...**

**Linking with relevant polices, priority target groups emerge within FET – working
as AEGIs do with:**

- **People with a disability;**
- **Long term unemployed people;**
- **Those with lower skills or qualifications;**
- **Returners to the workforce, including women and lone parents;**
- **Travellers and Roma;**
- **Young People (NEET)s;**
- **Older people;**
- **Migrants;**
- **Refugees;**

SICAP: While measures to combat social exclusion are generally adopted at the EU member country level, the European Social Fund (ESF) has a social inclusion remit by providing financial support to help the transition to employment through investment in education, training and employment support.

These measures can be classified into two categories; individuals, and systems and structures. Interventions under the first heading aim to open up comprehensive pathways to integration for disadvantaged individuals; focussing on activities such as guidance and counselling, providing training and education, and offering employment supports.

Interventions under the second heading aim to create more effective responses to people at risk of exclusion by removing societal barriers, by improving services or by changing attitudes and raising awareness. Among the groups most frequently targeted with ESF support have been migrants and minorities (with a focus on Roma), people with disabilities and older workers. Significantly, most measures targeting specific vulnerable groups customised their intervention to match and fulfil the particular needs and personal characteristics of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds and discriminated against target groups (European Commission, 2010).



The programme is managed at a local level by 33 Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs), with support from local authorities, and actions are delivered by Programme Implementers (PIs).

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020.

THE GOALS AND GOVERNANCE OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PROGRAMME (SICAP) 2015-2017

A MIXED METHODS STUDY MERIKE DARMODY AND EMER SMYTH July 18

‘Complementarity versus duplication: SICAP and other service provision’ ...



SOLAS, November '18:

Fully integrated learner guidance and support service across FET should be expedited

Break down inconsistencies between different programme provision and ensure learners can avail of the same support regardless of setting

Ensure that learners can avail of impartial guidance and support across all FET settings.

Agree a quality framework or Code of Practice to ensure consistent & quality provision.

Build ongoing performance & impact evaluation and tracking of outcomes & impacts

National developments: SOLAS recently published the 'Progress Review of the Further Education and Training Strategy 2014 – 2019'. Goal 3, Objective 3 refers to the need to "Upgrade the guidance services within FET and extend to all who engage with FET, including employees", which informs Recommendation 6 which refers to the provision of:

"effective guidance services accessed during the lifetime of a learner and provision of fundamental information and advice on their education and training options".

Facilitator's Summary - National Consultation Meetings

'The consultation meetings proved very useful to both help define key characteristics for a new system and also the process by which a new system is developed'

Key issues highlighted that will need further definition and agreement nationally include:

- * a **'purpose statement'** for the new system (*acknowledging both that the system will have to meet needs at a variety of levels and that it will need to have the capacity to evolve over time*)
- * a **policy** in relation to **confidentiality, GDPR and communications** with service users
- * a **quality assurance policy** that ensures consistency and user-friendliness
- * **definition (updating) of categories**
- * **links between AEGI's and to other systems**

Consultations Report

In terms of the process of getting from 'here to there', there are key questions requiring attention in relation to:

- * archiving
- * formalising of interim agreements and necessary interim arrangements (including one common GDPR form)
- * Training
- * timescales for development (i.e. a project management plan)
- * ongoing communications / consultations with stakeholders

Thanks!

Thank you for your participation!
Go raibh maith agaibh go léir

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